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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY, China

SUBJECT Situation in Sinking Province

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- The Sinkiang delegates to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference* returned to Sinkiang from Peiping prior to 8 January 1950. Their leader, Saifeddin Azizi**, has been appointed Vice Chairman of the Sinkiang Provincial Government***.
- 2. In early January 1950 two regiments of Ili troops wearing Russian-style uniforms with medals were stationed at Tihua. They had been replaced in Ili by Chinese Communist troops.
- 3. In early January 1950 differences in currency were preventing the free flow of trade between the Ili area and the rest of Sinkiang Frovince, but barter trade on the basis of brick tea had made a good start. Since the Ili massacre of Chinese in 1946, Chinese merchants have been reluctant to go to Ili. Moslems, mostly Mogais and Taranchis, travel when private transport is available.
- 4. The Wusu oil fields, in early January 1950, were not yet producing much gasoline. Russian convoys carrying aviation gasoline to Chiuchuan (98-33, 39-46), Kansu Province, were returning loaded with Chiuchuan gasoline for use in the Ili area.

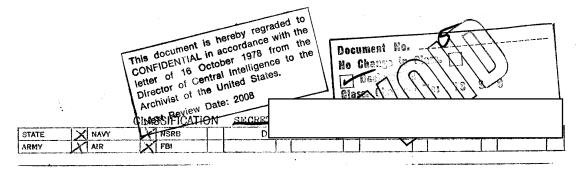
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* Comment. Saifeddin Azizi is of poor caliber, and a Russian puppet.

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*** Comment. The appointment was announced in mid-December 1949.



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